

Present: Rick Gardner, Deb Cary, Karen Rossow, Cary LeBlanc, Kelton Burbank

Meeting began at 7:00 p.m.

1. Minutes from January were approved.
2. Open Space and Recreation Plan: Workshop Planning
 - a. We reviewed the list of attendees and decided to add the hunting clubs (Nimrod, Norco) and Clair Degutis. We also are considering the tennis clubs (PTC and PHC).
 - b. Dates have been settled (2/24 at 10AM or 2/26 at 7PM). Workshops will be held in the community Center.
 - c. The workshop introduction will cover three topics:
 - OSRP Introduction
 - Brief (5-6 slide) overview of the survey. Attendees will have a printed copy of the survey and we will avoid trying to interpret the survey to avoid too much bias.
 - Walk through of the ideas that we have developed.
 - d. We will save the last 45-60 minutes for feedback. Instead of breaking into smaller groups we will ask all participants for their input and comments, and facilitate the meeting so that everyone has a chance to give input. Attendees can add ideas or suggest modification to the ideas we have presented.
3. Open Space and Recreation Plan: Objectives/Activities
 - a. We discussed the ideas list from last month and made changes as shown below. Rick suggests using this format for the workshops.

Objective 1: Re-establish a strong Parks and Recreation Operation in town
Objective 2: Assess Krashes Field and Needham Fieldhouse needs and opportunities and implement an improvement plan
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Evaluate town needs vs. current Krashes Field and devise strategy going forward b) Develop a new business plan for field use c) Develop a use plan for the Needham Field House
Objective 3: Study and improve other town fields/parks
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Sawyer Field: Develop a use plan and implementation plan and implement changes b) Thomas Prince School: Review usage and condition of the recreational fields and nature trails and work to make improvements where needed c) Center School: Review usage, primarily for walking track behind the school and trails into and out of the site. d) Goodnow Park: Develop trails and add picnic tables and benches
Objective 4: Improve/Extend Trails and Increase awareness/usage
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Continue work on 'Trails Around Princeton' by adding linkages between areas of Princeton. Work between the town, Princeton land Trust, DCR, Worcester Water, and town landowners to make connections b) Complete the Calamint Hill Trail network, including Boylston Park c) Continue guided hikes (Princeton Hikes!) and add guided bike rides d) Improve documentation/awareness of trails and recreation areas e) Conduct periodic 'Trail Summits' to gain public help with the trails program
Objective 5: Preserve Princeton Open/Protected Space
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Analyze Princeton land parcels and develop a list of 'high impact' parcels that will be the target for protection

- b) Provide additional Landowner Education seminars
- c) Work with landowners to monitor the status and plans for high impact parcels.
 - Chapter 61 properties (where town has a right of first refusal)
 - Other non-protected parcels

4. Summary of Work-to-do

a. OS+R Plan:

- All: Review sections 1 to 5 forward comments to section authors.
- Rick: Invite additional people to workshops
- Rick: Develop introduction PowerPoint and share with OSC before workshops
- Karen: Follow up with 2-3 people who have not committed to the workshops

b. Other items held over:

- Cary: Setup walkthrough of Goodnow Park for OSC members.
- Kelton will talk to Ted Goodnow about use of his property for trails.
- Rick trails committee meeting and continued work with ConCom and DCR on CHCA trails.
- All: Review the PowerPoint document sent by Rick of TAP segments, options, and status and send comments/ideas to Rick

5. Other items

- a. Rick mentioned that he has joined the Montachusett Regional Trails Coalition (MRTC). This group meets monthly and developed plans for trails in the area. Everyone is welcome to join
- b. Rick has also been participating in North County Land Trust (NRTC) events, and these are also open to others.
 - Will attend next Tuesday at 6PM seminar on building trails
 - Will present at 5/4 meeting on our Open Space plan development
 - NCLT has also done an interactive map of Princeton and neighboring towns with an analysis of high-impact parcels. This impact does not take all factors into consideration, but the map is interesting. Rick will send out a link
 - There are other maps from MASSGIS that are also useful for purposes of looking at parcels in town, and Rick will send out those links.
- c. We discussed possibility of doing some training on trails design and development. Rick suggested engaging Dick O'Brien from MRTC, who has volunteered to do this kind of seminar. Rick will discuss this with the Trail Steward group.

6. Next meeting: To be determined.

7. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Rick Gardner